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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/803,198	03/18/2004	Olivier M. Parriaux	ICB0166	4841
24203	7590	02/11/2005	EXAMINER	
GRiffin & Szipl, PC SUITE PH-1 2300 NINTH STREET, SOUTH ARLINGTON, VA 22204			TURNER, SAMUEL A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2877	

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/803,198	PARRIAUX, OLIVIER M.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Samuel A. Turner	2877	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified, above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-9, 13, 14, 19-30 and 34 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 10-12, 15-18 and 31-33 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 18 March 2004.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 26 and 27, there is no antecedent basis for "the fixed grating assembly". There are two places in these claims that were no changed to –the first grating assembly--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

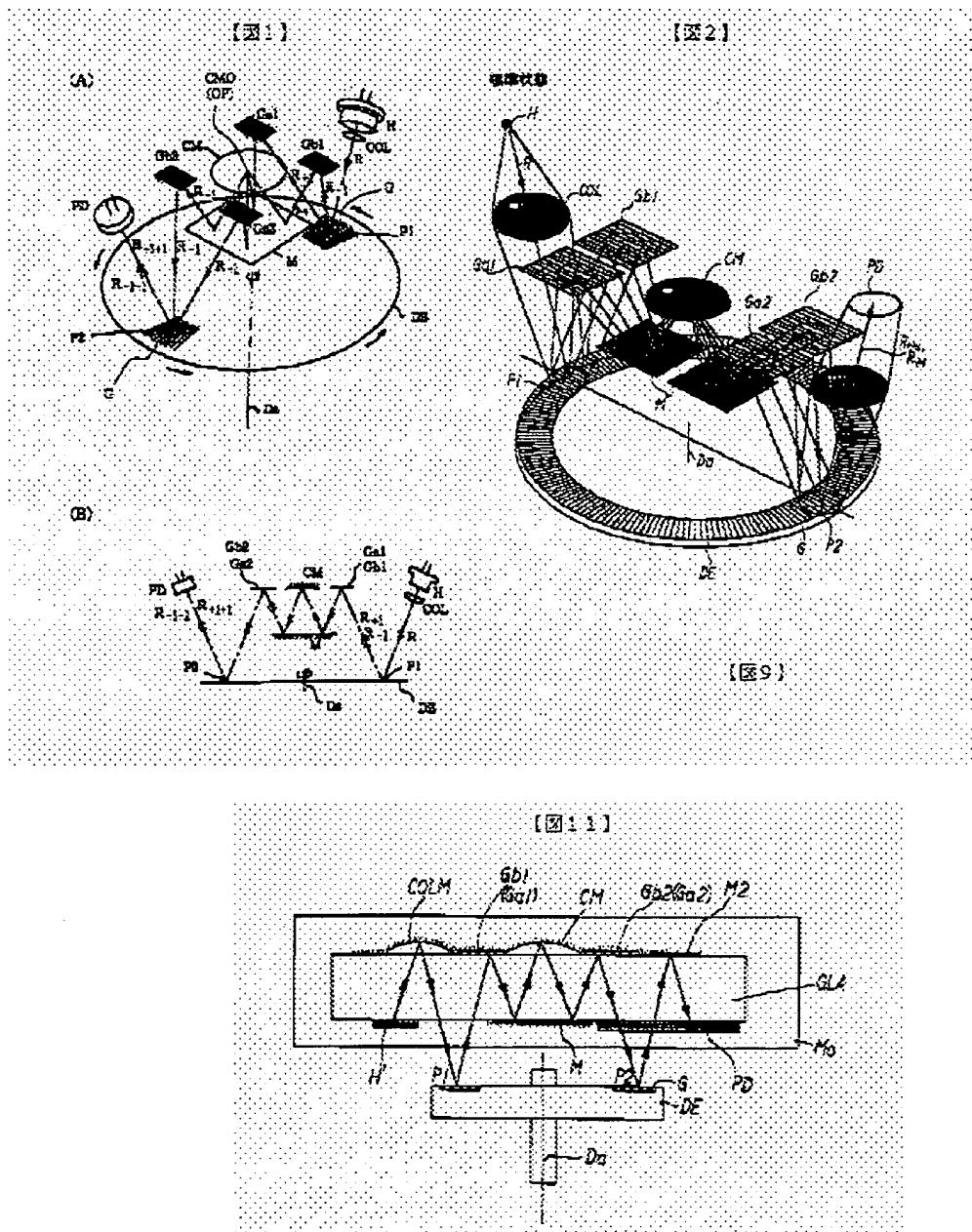
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

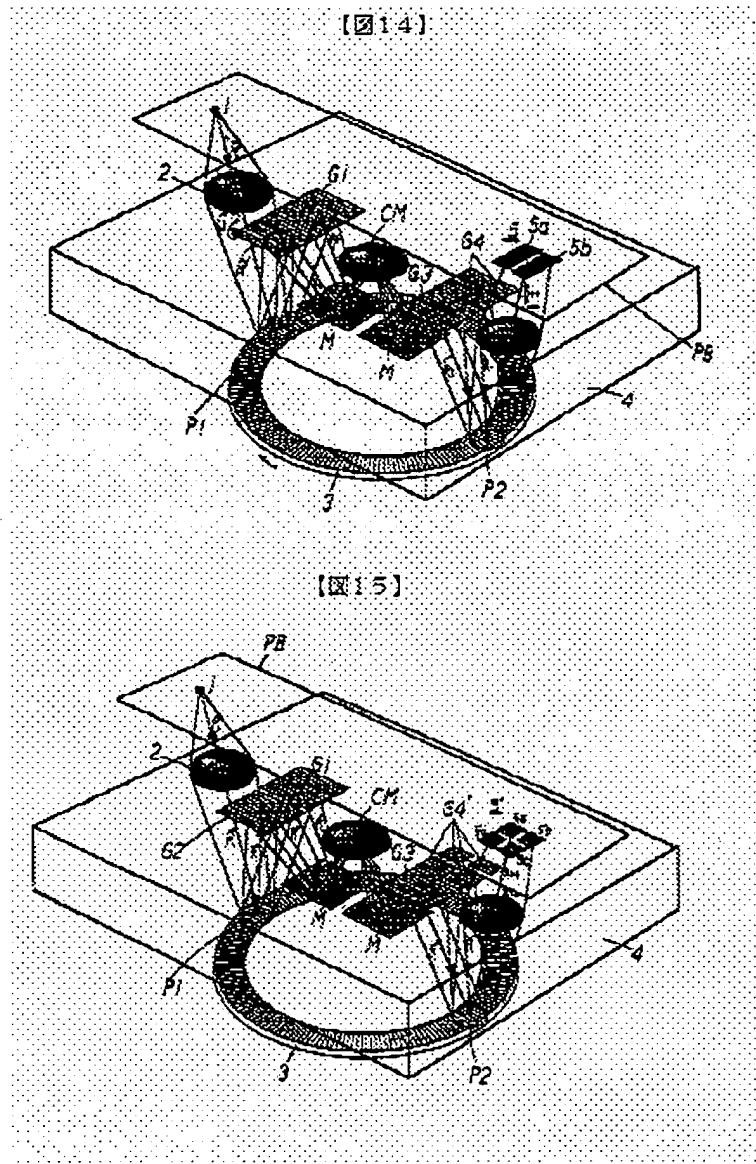
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 20-23, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Ishizuka(JP-06194144).

Ishizuka teaches a grating encoder comprising a light source(H), a collimating lens(COL), a first movable grating assembly(DE), a second grating assembly(Ga1,Gb1,Ga2,Gb2), and an interference detector(PD). See figures 1 and 2. An integrated arrangement is also disclosed. See figure 11.

A second embodiment comprises a light source(1), a lens(2), a first movable grating assembly(3), a second grating assembly(G1,G2,G3,G4), and an interference detector(5). In this embodiment the grating G4 includes either two or four gratings out of phase in order to provide phase shifted signals. See figures 14 and 15.





Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 13, 14, 19, 24, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishizuka(JP-06194144).

Ishizuka does not teach splitting the first grating(DE) into two gratings, having gratings of different spatial periods, or the specific coatings of the gratings. Also not taught is the specific source claimed or measuring velocity from the displacement.

With regard to claim 3, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to consider the opposite sides of the grating(DE) to be two different gratings since the diffracted beams reflect off the grating(DE) at different locations.

With regard to claims 13 and 14, official notice is taken that gratings formed of a dielectric layer on a substrate is known in the art thus there use would have been an obvious choice when forming the gratings. See In re Malcom, 1942 C.D 589; 543 O.G. 440.

With regard to claim 19, as velocity is displacement/time determining the velocity of the first grating was well within the scope of the skilled artisan.

With regard to claims 24 and 25, the light source used would have been a choice between a plurality of equivalent diode sources.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishizuka(JP-06194144) as applied to claims 3, 13, 14, 19, 24, and 25 above, and further in view of Huber et al(5,424,833).

Huber et al teach the use of gratings with different spatial periods having a ratio of 2/1 in order to control the number of orders formed and there paths.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Ishizuka apparatus by arranging the spatial periods of the gratings to have a ratio of 2/1 in order to control the number of orders formed and there paths.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12, 15-18, and 31-33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 26-30 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art or record fails to teach the specific grating arrangements claimed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel A. Turner whose phone number is **571-272-2432**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr., can be reached on **571-272-2800 ext. 77**.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **703-872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).



Samuel A. Turner
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2877